

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum

Annual Report April 2007 - March 2008

Report of Council

Overview

The UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum continues to pursue its aims to promote awareness and conservation of the rich and unique biodiversity, natural environment and related heritage of the UK's Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies (UKOTs and CDs). It is supported by grants, donations and subscriptions, but relies substantially on the voluntary efforts of Council members and others. It works in partnership with a wide network of bodies in the UK and UKOTs/CDs (many of which are Forum member organisations), as well as individuals with relevant expertise.

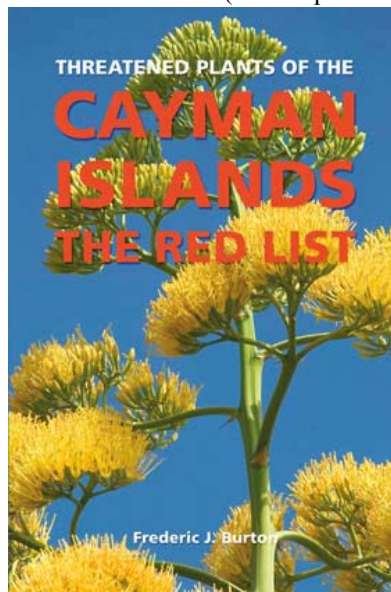
The updated *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* released in September 2007 once again emphasised the significance of (and threats to) the biodiversity of the UKOTs. Forum member organisations continue to contribute to the important work of 'red listing', providing information on the status of UKOT biodiversity to the IUCN initiative. For example, the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) Kew has been working with Territory-based partners in the Caribbean in particular on plant red lists. However, baseline data on many taxa remain insufficient to make reliable assessments of conservation status at species level. Diverse groups such as insects, other invertebrates and fungi, which make vital contributions to ecosystem services in the UKOTs, remain very poorly studied. Filling these gaps in our knowledge of species remains a major challenge in the study and conservation of the biodiversity of the UKOTs. Meanwhile, the ecosystems of which those species are part remain under severe pressure from environmental changes driven by human activities. The Forum continues to work to raise the profile of species and habitats in the UKOTs, and their importance to local communities as well as globally.

Lack of appropriate levels of funding for conservation and environmental protection in the UKOTs remains a major obstacle to progress. This year saw further small projects supported by the

Overseas Territories Environment Programme (OTEP), funded by the UK Government's Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Department for International Development (DFID). The Forum is proud of its involvement in the establishment of OTEP (and its predecessor, FCO's Environment Fund for the Overseas

Territories), and is first to acknowledge the value of this Programme and the small projects that it supports. However, the Forum has always argued that a larger-scale funding mechanism is vital. One summary analysis suggests that the UK Government values the unique biodiversity of the metropolitan UK around 9000 times more highly than it values that of the UKOTs for which it also has international responsibility (based on UK Government spending of around £460 million per year for conservation of biodiversity in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, versus around £1 million per year for the UKOTs, despite the latter being home to at least 20 times as many endemic species as the metropolitan UK). During the year, the RSPB developed this further, by commissioning more detailed estimates of the resources required for priority conservation actions in the UKOTs; this suggested that a minimum of £16 million per year was required (on top of work already taking place). There are some signs that the message is getting through, with the UK Government's

Environmental Audit Committee urging greater involvement in, and funding for, conservation work in the UKOTs from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) (see below). However, it remains to be seen whether such calls will have the desired effect.



The new plant Red List for the Cayman Islands, by Fred Burton, published in June 2008 by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew



Although Green Turtles Chelonia mydas are doing well here at Ascension, they have serious problems elsewhere and remain Endangered on the IUCN Red List. (Photo:

Dr Mike Pienkowski)

Relations with UK Government and Government agencies

The Forum has worked hard to maintain good relations with DFID, FCO and other UK Government departments, through formal meetings and informal contacts. The regular (twice yearly) general meetings with the UK Government, jointly chaired by UKOTCF and FCO, have continued. The July 2007 joint meeting

included a presentation from the Forum on *The role of NGOs in conservation in Britain and the UKOTs*. Discussions at the January 2008 joint meeting explored the potential for future joint meetings based on particular themes, such as marine conservation issues or climate change.

UKOTCF personnel have also made sure that the importance of UKOTs and CDs was not overlooked, using a range of opportunities, including the national meetings on the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands hosted by Defra. Informal meetings have been held to brief new Governors, Administrators Designate and their staff prior to taking up post, when UKOTCF was advised of these new appointments, as well as later follow-up meetings with some. Informal meetings have been held too with officers of FCO and DFID throughout the year, as well as with those of some parts of Defra.

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) has become increasingly involved in work in the UKOTs/CDs, notably in relation to environmental economics, invasive species, climate change and the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP). Forum representatives met with JNCC in September 2007 to discuss future priorities. UKOTCF plans to resume these discussions, to help ensure that the potentially complementary nature of the roles of JNCC and UKOTCF, envisaged by both organisations in discussions before JNCC was able to expand its role in the Territories, is fulfilled.

Input to policy development

Another important aspect of the Forum's work is its on-going drive to raise awareness amongst policy makers (particularly in the UK) of the UKOTs, the importance of their biodiversity, and the environmental challenges that they face. Activities in this area include submissions to UK Government inquiries and consultations.

In May 2007, the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) published its report on *Trade, Development and the Environment: The Role of the FCO*, which emphasised the importance of environmental protection and sustainable development as core strategic issues for the UK Government in the international arena. It expressed concern over FCO's capacity to engage in environmental diplomacy (and to link appropriately with environmental NGOs), and a lack of co-ordination on sustainable development issues across UK Government departments more widely. In relation to the UKOTs specifically, the EAC drew extensively on UKOTCF information, and called for greater involvement from Defra, and increased funding to support this, whilst warning that failure to act would "run the risk of continued environmental decline and species extinctions in the UKOTs". This echoed the same Committee's report on the findings of the UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (published in January 2007), which had also called for greater involvement from Defra in, and enhanced funding for, biodiversity conservation and environmental protection in the UKOTs.

In June 2007, the Forum responded to the UK Government's consultation on its draft Climate Change Bill (which otherwise focuses exclusively on the metropolitan UK) by calling for UKOTs to have access to the expert Committee on Climate Change, the establishment of which is proposed under the Bill.

In July 2007, the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC) announced an inquiry into FCO responsibilities for the UKOTs, particularly in relation to security and good governance. The FAC is yet to report*, but the inquiry has attracted many submissions from the UKOTs and elsewhere. Many of the issues raised have relevance to environmental management, as reflected in the Forum's own submission to this inquiry.

*Reported July 2008



Great Shearwaters Puffinus gravis over the waters of Tristan da Cunha. Apart from small numbers at the Falkland Islands, the world population nests on Nightingale, Inaccessible and Gough Islands. UKOTCF has been helping in the preparation of designations of the last two as Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention.

(Photo: Dr Mike Pienkowski)

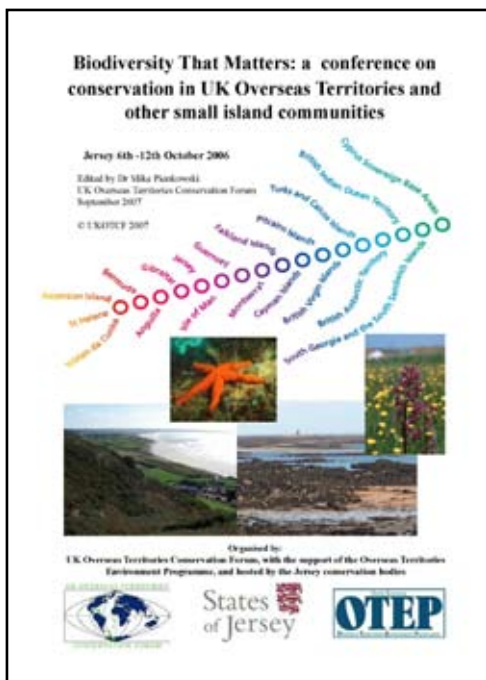
Working Groups and wider networks

The development of the Forum's Working Groups, from bodies with a single-Territory remit to ones with an increasingly broad regional focus, was outlined in last year's report. This year saw the first meetings of the Forum's new Southern Oceans Working Group (SOWG) and Europe Territories Working Group (ETWG), as well as on-going meetings of the Wider Caribbean Working Group (WCWG). The activities of these Groups during the year are summarised in subsequent sections of this report.

Policy development and other activities at a European Union level are becoming increasingly important for conservation in Overseas Territories and similar entities. The Forum is delighted to be part of the consortium of umbrella NGOs (*Bioverseas*) that is working with the institutions of the European Union (EU) to promote an integrated approach to conservation in the Outermost Regions/Overseas Countries and Territories (ORs/OCTs) of EU Member States. Recent *Bioverseas* activities include encouraging the establishment of an EU small-grants facility to help OCTs develop environmental initiatives, and efforts to influence revision of the OCTs Association Decision, the EU's legal mandate for dealing with OCTs. Through these routes, UKOTCF has also advised fellow *Bioverseas* member, IUCN, on the development of a conference on *The European Union and its Overseas Entities: Strategies in the face of climate change and biodiversity loss*, to be held on Réunion Island 7-11 July 2008. The conference has been adopted as an official event of the 2008 French Presidency of the EU, which potentially increases its profile and influence. UKOTCF is working with IUCN colleagues in Brussels to encourage support for governmental and NGO UKOT representation at the event, and for participation by high-level policy makers.

UKOTCF also continues its partnership with the UK Committee for IUCN (IUCN-UK), whereby UKOTCF takes the lead, and keeps IUCN-UK informed, on UKOT/CD matters, and IUCN-UK uses its network to support this. UKOTCF's Chairman served on the Executive Committee of IUCN-UK, and the two bodies worked together to prepare a presentation (held after the end of the reported year) to the All Party Parliamentary Group on Conservation & Wildlife, including UKOT aspects.

One of the most successful and rewarding activities of the Forum's work in recent years has been the international conferences, held in Gibraltar (2000), Bermuda (2003) and Jersey (2006). These provide rare opportunities for representatives of Forum member organisations, other UKOT/CD stakeholders, and those with wider relevant experience, to meet and to exchange ideas and views. Although these events are held on a three-yearly basis, it is a measure of the time and effort involved in their organisation that, no sooner have the



Proceedings of the Jersey Conference (available to download from www.ukotcf.org)

outputs from one conference been collated, planning for the next begins in earnest. October 2007 saw the publication of the Jersey Conference Proceedings on the Forum website. At around the same time, commitments for funding were secured (particularly in connection with OTEP), and initial plans were drawn up, for the next conference which will be held in the Cayman Islands, 30 May – 5 June

2009. The Forum is working closely with colleagues in the Cayman Islands and elsewhere to develop the conference programme and to ensure the success of this event.

Environment Charters and conservation concerns

The Forum was active in 1998-9 initiating the concept of Environment Charters and encouraging their development from 1999 to 2001, although (contrary to suggestions from some quarters) it did not contribute directly to their drafting. Since they were signed in September 2001, the Charters have become important statements of intent by the governments of the UK and individual UKOTs, outlining commitments by both parties to environmental protection and sustainable development. In some cases, UKOTCF has facilitated the development of strategies for action by UKOTs to implement these.

At the request of various parties in the UK and UKOTs (including FCO, DFID and some UKOTs), in 2004 UKOTCF started developing and consulting on draft measures of progress being made in Environment Charter implementation. Following publication of draft measures in *Forum News* early in 2006 and feed-back on these, the Forum began a process of collating and analysing information. In order to increase the value of the exercise, equivalent information was also sought for territories (including CDs) without Environment Charters. The whole task proved to be complex and time-consuming, and a major proportion was undertaken in volunteer time. The Jersey Conference of October 2006 was used as a further stimulus to filling the gaps. In August 2007, the Forum published its first review of progress on Environment Charter implementation. Predictably, the results were mixed, and the few summary points that follow provide illustrative examples rather than a full overview. Around half the territories had increased the coverage of their terrestrial protected areas since the Charters were signed, although one had decreased the total area of protection to allow more built development. Both government departments and NGOs in most territories produce a range of environmental publications, but rather few actively promote their Environment Charter and its implementation strategy. A number of territories had made substantial progress in biodiversity survey and monitoring, but more work is needed on this front in these (and particularly other) territories. There is a great deal still to be done in most territories to meet commitments with respect to development planning

procedures, environmental impact assessments, and the openness of such processes.

Despite earlier indications (including one to Parliament in early 2007) that it would contribute to and use the Forum review, FCO later felt unable to provide information to this exercise. Unfortunately, therefore, consideration of fulfilment of commitments by HMG (both generally and specifically in those Territories governed directly by HMG) remained very incomplete. However, FCO commissioned (from the International Institute of Environment and Development) its own report on the Environment Charters during 2007. This suggested that, whilst the Charters were fundamentally sound, there was a need for a greater emphasis on the development of strategies and mechanisms for implementation in individual Territories.

Amongst the key conservation concerns for the UKOTs, climate change provides one of the greatest potential challenges, not least because of the global nature of this phenomenon. However, opportunities exist for regional and global co-operation in the development of mitigation and adaptation strategies. Thanks to financial support from DFID, for example, UKOTs in the region now have the opportunity to participate in the work of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, based in Belize. As a largely GEF-funded initiative, UKOTs were previously excluded from the Centre's activities – another reminder of the difficulties created by the status of the Territories.

The impact of construction work and inadequate planning systems on habitats has been a source of particular concern during the year, especially in some Caribbean UKOTs. The strength of feeling over such issues may have contributed to a change of government in the British Virgin Islands (BVI), and certainly stimulated the establishment of a new local group, the Virgin Islands Environmental Council, who have mounted a legal challenge to earlier government permission for a development on Beef Island.

Public awareness and information management

Forum News 31 was published in October 2007. In anticipation of a renewed agreement with DFID/FCO over disseminating information on OTEP, this included, as previously, a section outlining newly-approved OTEP proposals and reports from a number of existing projects. The Forum's other anticipated responsibilities under this contract were fulfilled via updates to the relevant section on the UKOTCF website, which continued to provide a wealth of other information on the UKOTs/CDs, Forum partners and relevant environmental issues. The agreement with DFID/FCO was renewed late in the year, to run for several years.



Frances (Marks) Buckel, Ann Pienkowski and Adrian Buckel (2nd, 5th & 7th from left) talk with visitors to UKOTCF's stand at the British Bird Fair, August 2007. (Photo: Dr Mike Pienkowski)

Articles relevant to the Forum's work were also published elsewhere, including that by Colin Hindmarch on the biodiversity of the OCTs of EU Member States which appeared in the *Biologist* in May 2007.

The Forum once again had a stand at the British Bird Fair at Rutland Water (in August 2007), which proved popular with visitors.

Organisational development

In October 2007, Frances Marks stood down as the Forum's part-time Co-ordinator, after 8 years of service. The Forum is grateful to Frances for all her efforts during that period, and wishes her well with the new challenges that she has taken on with local environmental projects in Oxfordshire.

At various times during the year, Juliet Rose, Ann Brown, Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, Geoff Fairhurst, Colin Clubbe and Oliver Cheesman departed from Council, and Liz Charter, Bill Samuel and Joseph Smith Abbott joined. We thank those standing down for their various contributions, in some cases over several years. Colin Clubbe had filled the difficult role of Vice-Chairman, and special thanks are due for this. It is encouraging that his departure was principally a result of his success in building up the UKOT programme at RBG Kew, and the consequent demands on his time. Council is very grateful also to Oliver Cheesman for taking on the Company Secretary role, and in practice much of the Co-ordinator role also – on a voluntary basis – for much of the later part of the year.

During the year, discussions were held with the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation with a view to securing some badly needed support for core activities of the Forum, which depend heavily on the voluntary efforts of a few Council members and others. These discussions concluded successfully just before the end of the year with a grant, which will allow for modest paid support plus some other activities to be better supported. Although most aspects did not become active until the following reporting year, arrangements were made for Oliver Cheesman and Catherine Quick to take on the part-time roles of Development Director and Co-ordinator respectively. These roles will evolve as a large backlog of important issues is cleared.

At the end of 2007, the Forum initiated an internal review, involving an extensive member organisation consultation led by John Cortes (Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society), Rob Thomas (Royal Zoological Society of Scotland) and Oliver Cheesman (UKOTCF). The Forum's Memorandum & Articles of Association are also being reviewed, by legal experts. The aim of both exercises is to ensure that the Forum is well positioned to work effectively with its network of member organisations and other partners, in a changing institutional environment.

Despite the welcome development of the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation grant, resourcing of UKOTCF's core activities remains a challenge in the short, medium and long term. The Forum remains heavily dependent on the voluntary efforts of Council members and others, and the Development Director and Treasurer will continue to work with colleagues to explore new sources of financial support.

Projects

Amongst its other activities, the Forum helps its member organisations to identify, design, resource and implement projects, often involving the development of strategic partnerships between member organisations and sometimes others. Other projects in which the Forum is involved provide a co-ordinating role for activities across multiple (sometimes including non-UK) Territories. Income generated via projects provides an important source of funding for the Forum, although this relies on Council members and others providing their time to project work at well below market



*Display at the Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre, Cyprus Sovereign Base Areas; the Centre is collaborating in UKOTCF's Cross-territory Environmental Education project, supported by OTEP.
(Photo: SBA Administration)*

rates. Some of the projects operating during the reported year are noted below.

The Forum is co-ordinating a cross-Territory OTEP project to develop an environmental education facility on the UKOTCF website. This will comprise three main components: i) shared environmental education resources (allowing ideas and materials tailored to each Territory to be developed with the benefit of experience and related materials from across the UKOTs); ii) a virtual tour of each UKOT (providing a resource for awareness raising across Territories, and within UK); iii) a discussion forum (through which students and others can share ideas and learn from one another about environmental issues in other Territories). The discussion forum is currently being piloted, and the necessary resources for the other components of the project are being assembled. The project grew out of discussions at (and the participation of local high school students in) the 2006 Conference in Jersey organised by the Forum, noted earlier.

In December 2007, the European Commission (EC) finally committed to funding a project linking TCI, BVI and the Cayman Islands, which will use aspects of sustainable tourism to enhance biodiversity conservation. Whilst the TCI Government provides the formal lead in this project, the Forum has had the co-ordinating role, and UKOTCF's Chairman has spent much time over the last four and a half years steering development of the proposal through the complex and shifting requirements of the EC. The EC's procedures will run on through much of 2008 before the project can start.

The Net-Biome project is a multi-partner, EU-funded initiative which aims to enhance co-ordination of biodiversity research underpinning sustainable development in the (sub)tropical Outermost Regions/Overseas Countries & Territories of France, the Netherlands, Spain, Portugal and the UK. The Forum is providing input to the project in relation to (sub)tropical UKOTs as well as coordinating one of the later-starting elements of the project. Unfortunately, delays well beyond the control of UKOTCF have occurred in the establishment of a project secretariat and the appointment of key staff, with knock-on effects for the initiative's programme.

The Turks and Caicos National Trust (TCNT) has been working with the Forum for many years to meet the request from the local communities on Middle Caicos to help them look after their internationally important wildlife, while at the same time providing opportunities for small business based on this heritage. This work has developed further, extending some of these approaches to other islands, as well as working with several TCI Government Departments and other NGOs in the areas of environmental awareness and education. In TCI, this has resulted in outputs including a *Bird of the Month* poster calendar, a series

of promotional postcards, and several awareness-raising videos. Most of this work was undertaken by the Chairman and Ann Pienkowski, working closely with Bryan Naqqi Manco, TCNT Senior Conservation Officer. Martin Hamilton and colleagues from RBG Kew contributed work on plant red listing and measures to counter the devastation of the native pine by an introduced insect pest. Work was extended also by UKOTCF's recruiting over 3 person-months of work by skilled volunteers, vastly improving the facilities at the Middle Caicos Conservation Centre.

Acknowledgements

The Forum Council would like to thank the individuals and

representatives of member organisations who have given numerous hours of voluntary time to the Forum, both in the UK and the Territories. The Forum would like to thank existing Friends, and encourage those who have an interest in the UKOTs to join the scheme. The Forum is very grateful for financial assistance as project grants and donations, from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Department for International Development. The Forum is also grateful to member organisations for allowing meetings to take place at their offices: particularly Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Zoological Society of London, as well as to the Falkland Island Government and Foyle's Bookshop for allowing the use of their London offices.

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum Summary Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2008

	2008 Unrestricted Funds	2008 Restricted Funds	2008 Total Funds	2007 Total Funds
Incoming Resources				
Subs and donations	44,408		44,408	10,723
Investment Income	4,106		4,106	3,321
Sundry Incoming Resources	286		286	386
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities				
Project Income		132,474	132,474	233,657
Total Incoming Resources	48,800	132,474	181,274	248,087
Resources Expended				
Charitable Activities	12,484	115,156	127,640	225,164
Other Resources Expended	18,981	6,048	25,029	21,670
Total Resources Expended before transfer	31,465	121,204	152,669	246,834
Less contributions to overheads from projects	-11,879	11,879		
Total resources used	19,586	133,083	152,669	246,834
Net incoming/outgoing resources	29,214	-609	28,605	1,253
Balance brought forward as at 1st April 2007	57,013	54,646	111,659	110,406
Balance carried forward as at 31st March 2008	86,227	54,037	140,264	111,659

Report of UKOTCF Wider Caribbean Working Group

The Wider Caribbean Working Group (WCWG) met four times during the year, on each occasion at the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) Kew. Group members attending the meeting in August 2007 also enjoyed a short tour of the facilities at Kew, to see UKOT plants being cultivated under glass, including threatened species from BVI, TCI and Montserrat. Colin Clubbe and his team are to be congratulated on the progress being made to raise the profile of UKOT work within Kew, much of it focused on the Caribbean region.

Responding to last year's reported desire amongst WCWG members to see a reinvigoration of the Environment Charter process, the

Group's Chairman, Bruce Dinwiddy, this year raised the issue on more than one occasion during Forum joint meetings with UK Government. General concerns emerging during the year included the rapid pace of built development, and weaknesses in associated planning processes, particularly in the construction of resorts and other tourism infrastructure. This is not exclusively an issue for Caribbean UKOTs, but is recognised as a wider regional problem, as was noted at the *Society for the Conservation & Study of Caribbean Birds* Conference in Puerto Rico in July 2007 (see *Forum News* 31). *The Situation Analysis for the Wider Caribbean* produced by IUCN in 2007, whilst recognising some economic benefits, describes

tourism as “a major contributor to environmental degradation” in the region. The same report notes an apparent disconnect between talk of promoting eco- and heritage tourism, and the reality in many parts of the Caribbean – continued construction of large-scale resorts, encouragement of the cruise ship industry and investment in “mega-yacht facilities”.

In addition to activities in individual Territories outlined below there has been further progress on a number of cross-Territory initiatives involving the Forum, its member organisations in the Caribbean region and other partners during the year. These include the OTEP-funded Environmental Education project (see main Forum report), which was initiated with partners in UKOTs including BVI, Cayman and TCI. These partners, and others (including in Montserrat), have been active in developing the pilot discussion forum and other aspects of this project, which is progressing very well. Slower progress has been made in advancing a proposal to the European Commission for a project supporting conservation of biodiversity (in particular, of tropical dry forest habitats) through the development of sustainable eco-tourism infrastructure and environmental education facilities. Despite a substantial investment of time by the Forum Chairman and partners in TCI, BVI and Cayman over more than four years, additional complications seem to have been introduced by the Commission in Brussels at every turn. Attempts to resolve these have been assisted by Delton Jones (TCI Permanent Secretary, Finance Ministry) and Haden Spicer (FCO). A commitment to fund the project was finally secured at the end of 2007, although implementation has been further delayed by changes instigated in Brussels. Complications have also arisen in relation to the EU-funded NET-BIOME project, which aims to enhance co-ordination of research in (sub)tropical Outermost Regions/Overseas Countries and Territories (ORs/OCTs) of EU Member States. However, it is hoped that progress will be made once difficulties in establishing a secretariat for this initiative (in Réunion) are overcome.

Another collaborative effort involving a range of Caribbean UKOT partners led to the publication of *Valuing the Environment in Small Islands - an Environmental Economics Toolkit* by JNCC in May 2007. Thanks to a project memorandum developed by (and with substantial financial support from) DFID, it was announced during the year that UKOTs within the Caribbean would be able to participate in the work of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre. The Centre, based in Belize, manages a regional initiative which is funded by the GEF, and from which UKOTs would therefore have been excluded without this support. Means of involving UKOTs in the Caribbean regional invasive species initiative managed by CABI (also GEF-funded) continue to be explored.

During the year, WCWG was pleased to hear that the next international conference to be organised by the Forum would be held in the Cayman Islands (30 May – 5 June 2009).

Anguilla

As in relation to other Caribbean islands, local concern was expressed during the year over the current pace and scale of built development in Anguilla, and the adequacy of local legislation underpinning environmental protection. However, there was also evidence of the hard work being undertaken by committed individuals in the environmental sector in Anguilla, including the completion and official launch by the Anguilla National Trust (ANT) of a documentary DVD and the *Guide to the Birds of Anguilla*. RSPB's Steve Holliday was a major contributor to the Guide, and RSPB were also active in Anguilla during the year in facilitating work on invasive species and seabird monitoring. An OTEP-funded project (implemented by Karen Varnham and



Sooty Terns Sterna fuscata land back in their nesting colony with Brown Noddies Anous stolidus, Dog Island, Anguilla
(Photo: Dr Mike Pienkowski)

former OTEP Fellow Rhon Connor of the Anguilla Department of Environment, DoE) assessed the feasibility of rat eradication on Dog Island, a privately owned, uninhabited, 200ha island, around 8 miles north-west of Anguilla. It is an Important Bird Area, and also provides turtle nesting sites. In addition to the Dog Island project, two further OTEP projects centred on Anguilla were announced, focused on enhancement of marine protected areas (led by ANT) and the development of a national biodiversity strategy and action plan (led by DoE).

Bermuda

As the most densely populated of the wider Caribbean UKOTs, development pressure is a recurrent issue in Bermuda, and concerns were again expressed during the year, particularly over the use of Special Development Orders (by-passing normal planning requirements) to speed up hotel construction projects. This has prompted concerns amongst existing NGOs, and has attracted opposition from new, local groups. Conservation successes reported from Bermuda included the work of the *Buy Back Bermuda* campaign (a joint Bermuda National Trust/Bermuda Audubon Society initiative), which raised £1.7million in a matter of months, providing for important land purchases to be made. Particularly welcome news was the announcement by the Environment Minister that Cooper's Island is to be designated a National Nature Reserve and National Park. New OTEP projects announced for Bermuda included those supporting the Saltus Island restoration project (led by the Saltus Grammar School) and a project to develop tools and capacity for the integration of environmental evaluation into policy (led by the Department of Conservation Services). RBG Kew personnel were active in Bermuda during the year, including working with local partners to deliver a workshop on the conservation of native plants. RBG Kew has now received DNA, herbarium, and seed material of many of the threatened plant species in Bermuda. Forum representatives had a constructive meeting with Sir Richard Gozney (the new Governor) at the end of 2007.

British Virgin Islands

A proposal for a major resort and golf course development on Beef Island was approved by the BVI Government in February 2007. This decision proved controversial locally, and during the year was challenged in court by a new campaign group, the Virgin Islands Environmental Council. A new Government was elected in August 2007, and concern over the environmental impact of poorly controlled development was cited locally as one reason for the change of administration. A particularly positive step during the year was the approval of the landmark *BVI Protected Areas System Plan 2007-17*, prepared by the BVI National Parks Trust (BVINPT). This document lists in detail all existing and proposed

(terrestrial and marine) National Parks, and reflects the approach promoted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in providing for a Protected Areas network representative of the range of habitats found in the Territory. Work is underway to secure the future of the listed Protected Areas, and to ensure that appropriate management plans are in place for each. Other work by BVINPT has included collaboration with RBG Kew (including the first botanical survey of Fallen Jerusalem, where important pockets of habitat and populations of the endemic *Acacia anegadensis* were found) and with Professor Charles Sheppard of Warwick University (to develop an identification guide to the major Caribbean reef species, funded by OTEP). The BVI Conservation & Fisheries Department is close to completing the OTEP *Environmental CD Atlas* project, and has recently published *Marine Awareness – a BVI Guide*, a useful and richly illustrated booklet providing summary descriptions of key marine/coastal habitats and species, conservation provisions, and other relevant information.

Cayman Islands

The Group were pleased to hear of progress being made by the National Trust of the Cayman Islands, the local Department of Environment (DoE), and their various partners during the year. The 2006 IUCN *Red List* reported 46% of Cayman's native flora to be threatened, but 2007 saw at least one piece of good news in this regard – the rediscovery on Grand Cayman of *Salvia caymanensis*, an endemic plant species thought to have been extinct. The purchase of Uncle Sammy's Pond, an area surrounded by seasonally-flooded freshwater wetlands, important to a range of wildlife including overwintering birds, was announced and will provide the National Trust with its first nature reserve in West Bay. Work against invasive species included the initial stages of a project to eliminate Monk parakeets on Grand Cayman and a pilot project to remove feral cats from Little Cayman. The Darwin Initiative project implemented following the devastating impact of Hurricane Ivan in 2004 continued to make progress during the year, including in relation to habitat mapping, and is now entering its latter stages. A new OTEP project began, to undertake a regionally-focused scoping study for Targets 1 and 2 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), led by DoE and colleagues at RBG Kew. However, WCWG were disappointed to learn of continuing delays to the draft National Conservation Law, which is needed to underpin commitments made to protection of biodiversity locally and under various international conventions and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). Concerns were expressed also about a new road through native forest (although work on this was suspended after the end of the reported year).

Montserrat

This year saw progress on a number of fronts by the Montserrat National Trust (MNT), the newly formed Department of Environment (DoE), and partners in the Centre Hills and Botanic Gardens projects, amongst others. The Forum Chairman and Ann Pienkowski visited Montserrat in May 2007 to facilitate a management planning workshop involving NGO and government personnel. This focussed on developing a strategic plan and priority projects for MNT, as well as advising the DoE on its strategy, particularly in respect of international commitments. Local people identified some need for better linking up between Departments, citing repeated dumping of road-building waste into an important nature reserve. The Centre Hills Management Plan was completed (with support from RSPB and others under the Darwin Initiative project), and a new OTEP-funded project on economic valuation of the Centre Hills began. It is hoped that the Centre Hills will be designated a Protected Area under conservation and environmental

management legislation which is currently being developed. Work on Botanic Gardens development (facilitated by RBG Kew) included the establishment of nursery facilities and progress towards a new medicinal plants area, conceived and laid out by MNT staff. A new OTEP project (led by Durrell) began, focusing on Species Action Planning, including for the mountain chicken (the frog endemic to Montserrat and Dominica) and the elusive endemic galliwasp lizard.

Turks and Caicos Islands

Despite many challenges, the Turks & Caicos National Trust (TCNT) has continued its important conservation and education work, much of it in partnership with UKOTCF and other Forum member organisations. During the year, the Forum arranged for two skilled senior volunteers from UK to assist TCNT in the completion and fitting-out of the Middle Caicos Conservation Centre and its grounds. Other TCNT work facilitated by the Forum has included revision and updating of the primary school environmental education course *Our Land, Our Sea, Our People*, and development of public awareness projects. Work has continued by RBG Kew and TCNT on the devastating introduced scale insect infestation of native pine trees, but degradation of formerly pine-dominated habitats in TCI is increasingly evident. The team visited Andros Island in the neighbouring Bahamas to report on the situation and to conduct pest surveillance there. Work by the same team during the year has also progressed development of the *Plant Red List* for TCI, involving collection of vegetation records, herbarium specimens and seed banking material. During one visit to TCI, the Forum Chairman participated in a meeting of the local Environment Charter Working Group, coordinated and chaired by TCI Government, involving a wide range of stakeholders. This revealed local concerns over the status and management of Protected Areas, the impact of built development, issues of environmental democracy, and delays to the approval of modest funding from the Conservation Fund (a tax on visitors) to resource work on the scale insect invasion. In November 2007, the TCI Government hosted a regional environmental conference. The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, in its inquiry into Overseas Territories, visited TCI amongst some other UKOTs. Members of UK Parliament were extremely concerned about the number of anonymous submissions, reflecting a growing

r e l u c t a n c e among TCI residents to question openly the TCI Government. Newspapers within TCI have, however, reported strong concern amongst local people about the destruction of the natural environment, including within areas which are supposed to be legally protected.



Poster calendar produced by UKOTCF as part of its joint work with Turks & Caicos National Trust

Report of the UKOTCF Europe Territories Working Group

The Europe Territories Working Group (ETWG) was established by UKOTCF Council following the UKOTCF-organised conference in Jersey, in October 2006. Participants at this conference, with an interest in environmental issues in the Crown Dependencies and the two UKOTs in Europe, agreed that the formation of a Forum working group for territories in Europe would be a positive way of promoting and supporting Europe-focused issues.

Progress following the exploratory meeting at the conference was initially slow, largely due to the need to develop a mechanism for meeting remotely. Having established the viability of tele-conferencing, ETWG is now gathering momentum, building its own network, establishing links with government departments, exploring educational initiatives, contributing to government policy, developing a skills database, and sharing information on key areas of concern. The group is also providing a useful test-bed for tele-conferencing, which may prove to be a valuable way to improve communications in other Forum meetings and discussion fora. Tele-conferencing has been particularly fruitful in aiding discussions across the Europe Territories because of its ability to loosen-up the flow of ideas at low cost. There have been two full-scale ETWG meetings using the web-based conferencing facility, 'Skype'. There were a few problems with lost contact and some echo, but the system was effective, indicating its potential for other, wider ranging, UKOTCF meetings.

Relationship with government departments

One outcome of the Jersey conference was to encourage UK Government departments and agencies to work more closely with the Crown Dependencies on such issues as economic evaluation of habitats, agri-environmental measures, and the implementation of international agreements through local policies. This resulted in a JNCC-convened meeting hosted by the Isle of Man that affirmed JNCC's intention to build relationships with the territories, and facilitate the development of range of practical, inter-regional projects, similar to the Irish Sea initiative. Although the meeting was generally positive, participants felt that JNCC's not including NGOs was a missed opportunity, especially given the long experience of NGOs in this sort of work. Prior to JNCC's increased involvement with the territories, it had been the joint hope of JNCC and UKOTCF that they could pool efforts, with the new involvement of JNCC complementing UKOTCF's existing links and experience in the territories. More generally, distancing of civil society from policy development is contrary to the inclusive approach taken by European Institutions to governance¹. This difficulty in respect of some UKOTs was set out in UKOTCF's recent submission to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC) inquiry into governance in the UKOTs. This issue is relevant also to Crown Dependencies, and will be considered further by ETWG once the results of the inquiry have been published.

Contribution to policy development

From the outset, ETWG has recognised the importance of policy engagement, and its members have contributed to a range of policy issues, including the UKOTCF submission to the FAC inquiry into governance of the UKOTs, the Draft Marine Bill and the EC consultation on invasive species. The potential usefulness of this

form of high-level policy engagement has highlighted the need for ETWG to develop systematic ways of identifying key issues and coordinating the necessary responses. The ETWG Secretary is attempting to identify a policy coordinator, and will assume the role himself in the meantime.

Educational initiatives

The involvement of Jersey high school students in the *Biodiversity that Matters* conference in Jersey, including in the exploratory meeting of the ETWG, and other discussions, led to the development of a UKOTCF environmental education project linked across territories (see also main report). The need to raise awareness of UKOTs and CDs, both in UK and within the territories themselves, was considered to be very important. A successful OTEP application resulted in a 2-year project to develop web-based environmental education resources. The students from Jersey particularly wanted the opportunity to discuss and share environmental concerns and issues across UKOTs and CDs. They have maintained active involvement throughout the development of the project, particularly the on-line discussion forum. Other aspects of this project (accessibility and awareness of environmental education resources, and virtual tours of the UKOTs and CDs), are well underway. Although OTEP funding is not available to CDs, they are included in the project through the volunteer contributions of UKOTCF and people in the CDs. The other UKOT partners involved in the first year were Cayman, BVI, TCI, St Helena, Montserrat and Tristan da Cunha. ETWG members have also been active in promoting the project, especially the on-line discussion forum.

Skills database

The inaugural meeting of the ETWG in Jersey identified the need for a skills database to make the best uses of the skills and experience that had developed among the territories. This is in progress, and has been expanded to include issues of local importance, with a view to developing environmental profiles that might identify topics for joint action and guide the development of virtual tours (components of educational initiatives, as outlined above).

Information exchange

As well as developing strategic themes and joint programmes, a highly productive spin-off from ETWG meetings has been the sharing of information on current and developing projects. Recent examples cover topics as diverse as: amphibian ecology (Jersey);



Liz Charter chairs the first UKOTCF tele-meeting, and the first meeting of ETWG. (Photo: Hugh Leoidsson)

¹ Involvement of civil society organisations essential for success of EU energy and climate change policy: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=CES/08/7&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>; The European Commission and Civil Society: http://ec.europa.eu/civil_society/apgen_en.htm



carbon-offsetting strategies (Guernsey); the use of remote cameras (Alderney) and ways of mitigating the environmental impacts from major development programmes, including habitat translocation (Isle of Man); and regional marine resource management plans (Sark). The ETWG platform has also prompted the resumption of joint meetings between Crown Dependencies.

*Intertidal animals in the Gouliot Caves Wetland of International Importance, Sark, designated under the Ramsar Convention early in the year.
(Photo: Dr Mike Pienkowski)*

Report of the UKOTCF Southern Oceans Working Group

The Southern Oceans Working Group met three times during the year. The first, inaugural meeting of this new Group discussed priorities and working methods, and emphasised the desire that the two territories that had formerly been working on their own (Pitcairn and BIOT) would benefit from the support of others in the Southern Oceans region, and themselves contribute useful knowledge and experience to work in those other Territories. It was acknowledged that Pitcairn and BIOT shared some key characteristics and conservation challenges with Territories in the South Atlantic group, notably remoteness, management of uninhabited islands, and the importance of the marine environment, including the management of large Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and fisheries issues.

In addition to activities and issues in individual Territories outlined below, there has been further progress on cross-Territory initiatives involving the Forum, its member organisations in the Southern Oceans region and other partners during the year. These include the OTEP-funded UKOTCF Environmental Education project (see main Forum report), which was initiated with Territory partners, including St Helena and Tristan da Cunha. On St Helena, senior students at the Prince Andrew Secondary School undertaking environmental studies and their teacher have been particularly active and supportive in developing the pilot discussion forum. The planned involvement of Tristan da Cunha students was delayed by the fire (see below). However, regular contact has been maintained with the Tristan Conservation Department, who are helping reinstate active participation from the school. The Tristan Association has also been supportive in promoting the project. The EU-funded South Atlantic Invasive Species Project led by RSPB has also made significant progress during the year, including the appointment and training of Falklands and St Helena project officers and of a project botanist (whose activities will centre on Ascension and St Helena), completion of action planning, and movement into a more 'practical' phase of operations. Another important cross-Territory development during the year was the appointment by JNCC of an Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) Officer, based in the Falkland Islands.

As well as maintaining links with these specific projects, SOWG has during the year discussed key policy and environmental issues of relevance across Southern Oceans Territories. These have included important UK parliamentary activities, notably the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee inquiries (and subsequent UK Government responses) into the UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the role of FCO in trade, development and the environment, and the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee inquiry into governance in the UKOTs. Broad environmental issues discussed have included biosecurity, and

the need for simple guidance to be made available to visitors to (particularly uninhabited) small islands such as those of BIOT. Marine issues, and impacts of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing in particular, are of particular importance in the SOWG region. For example, around 80% of income to the Falkland Islands is derived from fisheries, and (despite their small land area) the EEZ of the Pitcairn Islands encompasses some 1% of the world's ocean. Capacity for, and therefore effectiveness of, monitoring of fisheries activities in Southern Oceans waters varies greatly between Territories. Arrangements in the Falklands and South Georgia, for example, appear to work relatively well, but other Territories are less well equipped (even though local bodies would like to see better arrangements). The Group intends to press UK Government on these matters.

Ascension

As well as participation in the regional invasive species project (see above), the Ascension Island Conservation Department has continued to advance important local work on a number of fronts. Activities have involved co-ordination of the work of visiting researchers and volunteers, measures to assist the survival of the endemic Ascension Spurge *Euphorbia origanoides* and on-going work on the Seabird Restoration Project. Work has also continued on enhancement and use of the Ascension Environmental Information Operations Utility (AEIOU), a powerful system for mapping and manipulating environmental and other data, developed with OTEP funding. The Army Ornithological Society has continued its regular expeditions to Ascension, adding to the valuable data series collected over a quarter of a century. In addition to the regular monitoring of populations of resident bird species, particular issues raised and studied during the year included the impact of rat predation on Masked Booby *Sula dactylatra* eggs and Sooty Tern *Onychoprion fuscata* chicks, and impacts of human activities on the endemic Ascension Frigatebird *Fregata aquila*.

St Helena

The progress of the proposed air access project has been a matter of considerable interest during the year, and an extensive (six volume) Environmental Statement has now been made available by the St Helena Government. Amongst the environmental concerns earlier expressed in relation to this major development were potential impacts on the endemic Wirebird (or St Helena Plover) *Charadrius sanctaehelena*, which was the focus of an action planning workshop led by RSPB in 2007. Also during the year, the St Helena National Trust benefited from the appointment of



Hugely different ecosystems occur over short ranges in St Helena. The foreground is the cloud forest of Tree Ferns *Dicksonia arborescens* and other endemics on the Peaks (the subject of the Protected Area Plan) with, in the background only 5 km away, the desert of Prosperous Bay Plain (the site of the planned airport) with many endemic invertebrates. (Photo: Dr Mike Pienkowski)

Vince Thompson as Director and Robert Draper as Projects Officer (responsible, in particular, for management of the OTEP *Millennium Forest Gumwoods*, *Wirebird* and *Environmental Information System* projects). Other OTEP projects coming to fruition in St Helena include that co-ordinated by Rebecca Cairns-Wicks to produce a *Protected Area Plan for the Central Peaks 2007-2010*.

Tristan da Cunha

Friends and colleagues on Tristan have faced a number of challenges during the year, including a flu ‘epidemic’ in this small community (which briefly captured the imagination of the UK media), and a fire which destroyed the fish processing plant and generator facility, disrupting power supplies and communications. In relation to environmental challenges, Tristan has benefited from involvement in the EU-funded invasive species project, a number of smaller OTEP-funded projects focused on the management of non-native plants and animals, and support from partners in the UK and South Africa. Copies of *The Natural History of Tristan da Cunha*, written by Paul Tyler and Alison Rothwell and produced by UKOTCF with support from the Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust, were distributed to the school on Tristan and to other stakeholders during the year. OTEP supported work by John Cooper to develop the proposals for designations under the Ramsar Convention of Gough and Inaccessible Islands. This was initiated in UKOTCF’s 2005 review of Ramsar across UKOTs and Crown Dependencies for UK Government’s Defra. The new work was undertaken in consultation with islanders, the Administrator, the Tristan Agriculture and Natural Resources Department, the Tristan Biodiversity Advisory Group and UKOTCF’s Chairman. Shortly after the end of the reported year, the Administrator formally requested UK Government to make these designations.



The Tristan Albatrosses of Gough Island
Threatened by longlining at sea and by the introduced House Mouse on land

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels www.acap.org | Agriculture & Natural Resources Department, Tristan da Cunha www.tristandc.com

A stunning A2 poster has been published by the ACAP and Tristan Agricultural & Natural Resources Department, a copy being presented to each child at St Mary’s School, and can be seen at:

www.tristandc.com/newsconservation.php.

Falkland Islands

During the year, Falklands Conservation (FC) were able to move into new premises (Jubilee Villa) in Port Stanley. Botanical work in the islands during the year has benefited from the work of the OTEP-funded *Plant Conservation* project, the recruitment by FC of a plant conservation officer, and the publication of *Plants of the Falkland Islands*, a simple and well-illustrated guidebook written by Ali Liddle. There has been increasing collaboration with RBG Kew, including a visit to the Falklands (and Ascension en route) by Martin Hamilton in 2007. Also benefiting from OTEP funding this year were the Shallow Marine Survey Group. The Falkland Islands Invertebrates Conservation Project (originally funded by the Darwin Initiative) continues its analysis of samples collected during its earlier fieldwork phase. Work on invasive species continues, including through the EU-funded regional project. Rat eradication is also a key element of the OTEP-funded *Beaver Island Group Restoration* project. Ian Strange, of New Island Conservation Trust, produced an interesting analysis of breeding colonies of the Black-browed Albatross over more than 20 years.

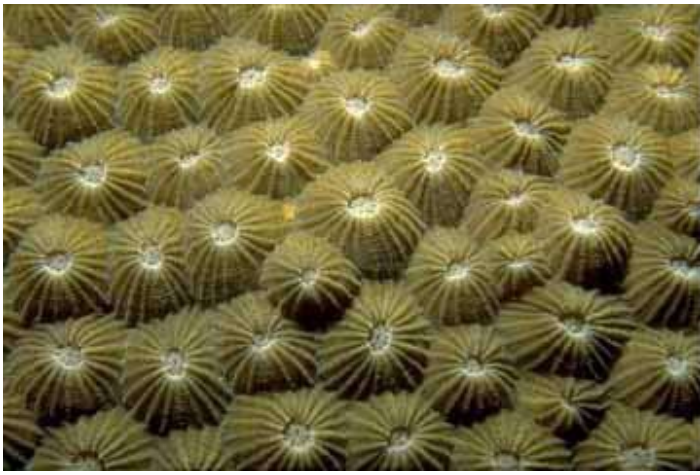


South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI)

South Georgia Surveys continue their valuable work in South Georgia and the Falklands, including monitoring of the Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans* populations, other species and environmental parameters, on Albatross and Prion Islands. This work complements the monitoring carried out on Bird Island by British Antarctic Survey (BAS), who also maintain a GIS database of which the South Georgia Government have commissioned an on-line version. Invasive species remain a particular concern for SGSSI, notably the impacts of reindeer grazing on tussac grass habitats and of rats on species including the endemic South Georgia Pipit *Anthus antarcticus*. In addition to activities under the EU-funded regional project, South Georgia has conducted a part OTEP-funded rat eradication feasibility study, which reported during the year. Other environmental concerns noted by the South Georgia Association and others include the visible retreat of glaciers in the Territory, a worrying reminder of the impacts of climate change, as well as giving problems for invasive eradication, by linking up previously isolated pieces of land.

British Antarctic Territory

During the year, a start was made to explorations with the British Antarctic Survey on possible links in the future.



Corals in BIOT (Photo: Chagos Conservation Trust)

British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)

This year saw the Royal Naval Birdwatching Society undertake another important census of seabirds on Diego Garcia, part funded by OTEP. The Chagos Conservation Trust (CCT) organised a successful one-day conference on the future conservation of BIOT, in association with UKOTCF, at the Zoological Society of London in October 2007. The meeting was well attended and included keynote contributions from eminent academics and influential figures in policy circles. It also included working sessions on climate change, fisheries and coral conservation, frameworks for internationally-supported conservation, and priority projects. A major factor influencing the future environmental management of BIOT will be the final ruling on the Chagossians' 'right to return' (currently before the House of Lords), and any resettlement that might result.

Pitcairn

During the year, David Towns of the New Zealand Department of Conservation and Michael Brooke of the University of Cambridge undertook a feasibility study for the eradication of rats from Henderson Island. The conclusion of the study, funded by OTEP, was that the project was probably feasible but, before any decision to proceed was made, further preparatory fieldwork was needed. This fieldwork would assess whether it was necessary to distribute an above-normal amount of bait around the coast in order to 'feed' the crabs first, and then leave enough over to kill all rats. It would also assess the practicalities of keeping a group of Henderson rails in captivity for as long as there was any risk from rat bait to free-



Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses Thalassarche chlororhynchos at Gough Island. These are one of five seabird species whose breeding is restricted to the Tristan da Cunha Group, this and two others being Endangered and the rest Vulnerable on IUCN's Red List (Photo: Dr Mike Pienkowski).

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Membership

The current UK and international members and associate members of the Forum are:

British Ecological Society; British Microbial Biodiversity Association; Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust; Herpetological Conservation Trust; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; Royal Zoological Society of Scotland; Zoological Society of London; Army Ornithological Society; Royal Air Force Ornithological Society and Royal Navy Birdwatching Society.

Current members and associate members of the Forum working for individual UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies are:

Alderney Wildlife Trust; Anguilla National Trust; Ascension Conservation Centre, Ascension Heritage Society; Bermuda Audubon Society; Bermuda National Trust; Bermuda Zoological Society; Chagos Conservation Trust; British Virgin Islands National Parks Trust; National Trust for the Cayman Islands; Falklands Conservation; Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society; La Société Guernesaise; Société Jersiaise, National Trust of Jersey; Isle of Man Wildlife and Conservation Division; Montserrat National Trust; St Helena National Trust; La Société Sercquaise, South Georgia Association, National Trust of the Turks & Caicos Islands.

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Four good reasons to become a Friend:

1. You know how valuable and vulnerable are the environmental treasures held in the UK Overseas Territories.
2. You understand that the only way to guarantee their protection is to build local institutions and create environmental awareness in the countries where they are found.
3. You care about what is happening in the UK Overseas Territories and want to be kept up to date by regular copies of *Forum News* and the Forum's *Annual Report*.
4. You understand that the UK Overseas Territories are part of Britain, and therefore are not eligible for most international grant sources - but neither are they eligible for most domestic British ones, so help with fundraising is essential.

EITHER: I wish to become a Friend of the UK Overseas Territories at the annual support level: £15 £50 £100 £.....

OR: I wish my company to be a Corporate Friend of the UK Overseas Territories at annual level: £150 £500 £1,000 £.....

Name of individual Friend or contact person for Corporate Friend:

Company name of Corporate Friend (if relevant) :

Address:

Telephone: Fax: Email:

Please complete one of options 1 to 4 below. UK taxpayers are requested to complete section 5 also; this will allow UKOTCF to benefit from the tax you have paid, at no additional cost to you.

1. UK cheque: I enclose my UK cheque made out to UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum for this amount.

2. Standing Order form: To: The Manager, Bank Name: Branch Sort-code

Bank address: Bank postcode:

Please pay: UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum at NatWest Bank, 9 Bank Court, Hemel Hempstead HP1 1FB Sort-code: 60-10-33
Account number 48226858 the sum of £..... now and a similar sum thereafter on this date annually.

My account number: Name

Address: Postcode:

Signature: Date:

3. Standing Order instructions sent: I confirm that I have sent instructions directly to my bank for a standing order as per option 2 above.

4. Credit or charge card: Please charge the amount indicated above to my card now *and thereafter on this date annually. [Delete the words after * if you wish to make only a single payment] (If you are based in another country, your card company will handle the exchange and include the equivalent in your own currency in your regular statement.)

American Express, Delta, JCB, MasterCard, Solo, Switch/Maestro, Visa Expiry date: / (month/year)

Card number: Security number (3 digits, or 4 for Amex)

If used: Start date: / If used: Issue number: Signature: Date:

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